



Active Environments & Climate Change

Impact Report 2023-24

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Introduction

The development of inclusive and sustainable places and spaces to encourage an active lifestyle is one of HSP's six Strategic Objectives. The Partnership has a role around: making the case/advocacy; generating insight, influencing stakeholders, connecting different parts of the system, upskilling / training and highlighting good practice.



Implementation

Active Environments

The Sport England Active Design Guide has been updated and we held a workshop in June which 20 planners attended to explain how they can apply the principles in practice. We used the event as a springboard and have since set up 1-1 meetings with planning teams (and other local authority colleagues) to explore how we can support their active environments related work.

We have also presented an **update at four Herts Planning Group meetings** in the period and contributed to the Northeast & Central Vision for 2050.

We organised the **'Designing and delivering sustainable sports events Webinar'** in October with 34 attendees from various organisations across Hertfordshire and nationally.

The feedback from attendees was positive:

- **91% of respondents were extremely or very satisfied with the event**
- **73% of respondents thought the webinar has given them tangible tools and tips that will help to design and deliver sustainable sports events in the future**
- **"Loved the presentations and thought the focus on practical examples was helpful". Attendee**

We contributed to the design and delivery of the Hertfordshire Active Travel Forum held at UH De Havilland Campus which attracted over 200 delegates and provided a great opportunity to influence key stakeholders.

Climate Change

Environmental Sustainability and Funding Webinar for Sports Clubs in March - HSP partnered with Funding4Sport to deliver this webinar with 35 partners in attendance.



Climate Fresk Workshop in March – This interactive workshop, attended by 9 partners, provided the fundamentals behind climate change using a collaborative game and empowered people to take action.

HSP also launched the **Free 1-1 Bid Writing Service for Sport & Physical Activity Projects that improve Environmentally Sustainability**. In partnership with Funding4Sport, a specialist sport and physical activity bid writing service, we will provide FREE support for up to 10 sport clubs or organisations, to help them access vital funds for their projects linked to environmental sustainability. So far 14 clubs have expressed an interest and 2 clubs have live applications in process. Please click [here](#) for more detail about the offer.

HSP has launched a new [Supporting Sustainable Sport in Hertfordshire web page](#) designed to provide partners with key information, resources, case studies and training.

We continue to influence the system ensuring that active environments is hard-wired in policy:

- Hertfordshire Growth Board Vision & Missions, launched late February detail how Hertfordshire's leadership (across local government, health, business and policing) will work together on shared countywide goals to deliver sustainable, good growth for residents, communities and businesses for years to come. HSP has inputted into these missions and emphasised the importance of inclusive, active and healthy lifestyles.

- We have added Active Design related content to the HCC Design Guidance for schools.
- We have worked with the County Active Travel Team to advocate for their free cycle hire scheme to be delivered in the Active Local areas.
- We have worked with the HCC Healthy Places Team to advocate for greater use of parks and open spaces, and as a result, they have invested in the county-wide ParkPlay project.

Outcomes and Benefits



Overall, we have been successful in building stronger relationships with key partners in this space, particularly local authority planners and key teams at the Herts County Council. We have ‘made the case’ for active environments and generally they are supportive of the concept and how it can benefit their wider objectives.

Key Learnings

This is a long-term approach. Whilst planning colleagues are generally supportive, they have many competing priorities, of which active environments is one. Going forward, we are looking to provide more tangible examples of practice, where we can really demonstrate the benefits of inclusive and sustainable active places.

Next Steps

1

Continue round of 1-1 meetings with planners to build relationships and explore collaboration opportunities.

2

Explore opportunities to jointly support the local authorities master-planning process, for large housing developments, at an early stage.

3

Continue to promote the Free Bid Writing Service for Sustainable Sports Projects aiming to support 10 clubs in total.





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